

## **I. Claims**

What is claimed is:

1. A water-excluding valve assembly for a diving snorkel, comprising:

a cap;

an upper piece with a top and a bottom and having a plurality of longitudinally spaced openings about its circumference;

a lower piece with a top and a bottom and having a plurality of longitudinally spaced openings about its circumference;

a plurality of hollow, longitudinal posts in communication with said upper piece and said lower piece at their longitudinally spaced openings;

the assembly of said upper piece, said lower piece and said posts forming a cage;

a spherical float, said spherical float being held captive within said cage;

said upper piece having a main opening about its centerline axis, said main opening forming a ball valve seat;

said cap and said top of said upper piece in communication and forming there between an upper air chamber;

a base, said base having a top and a bottom and having a main opening about its centerline axis;

said top of said base and said bottom of said lower piece in communication and forming there between a lower air chamber;

a hose barb located at said bottom of said base.

2. The water-excluding valve assembly for a diving snorkel as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the hose barb is of a round shape.

3. The water-excluding valve assembly for a diving snorkel as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the hose barb is of a rectangular shape.

4. The water-excluding valve assembly for a diving snorkel as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the hose barb is of a triangular shape.